

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 360

By McKee

A RESOLUTION to urge pharmaceutical companies to adopt a consistent international uniform pricing standard.

WHEREAS, the practice of medicine has seen a significant upturn in the utilization of prescription medication for patients, and, therefore, prescription drug spending is increasing at a rapid pace; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Americans paid drug prices that are 30 to 300 percent higher than that paid for the same drugs in Europe and other industrialized nations, and Canadian drug prices averaged 68 percent less than American prices; and

WHEREAS, individuals who pay high prices for prescription drugs may leave their prescriptions unfilled, thereby compromising their health and leading to more costly medical intervention; and

WHEREAS, many consumers are seeking less expensive prescription drugs by importing them from other countries; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby urge the pharmaceutical companies of the United States to adopt pricing formulas and standards that are consistent with prices of drugs sold to other countries, whereby all would pay a reasonable and fair cost.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for distribution to the major pharmaceutical companies of the United States, Abbott Laboratories, American Home Products, Aventis, Astrazeneca PLC, Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Glaxo Wellcome PLC, Glaxo SmithKline PLC, Johnson & Johnson, Eli Lilly & Co., Merck & Co., Novartis AG ADS, Pfizer Inc., Pharmacia Corporation, Pharmacia & UpJohn Inc., Rhone-

Poulenc SA ADR, SmithKline Beecham ADR, Schering-Plough Corp., and Warner Lambert Corporation.